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Naples, August 30.

THE Marquess de Lede, with the last Body of Spanish Troops which served in Sicily, having sailed from Termini the 12th of this Month, and the Imperialists being now entirely possessed of that Kingdom, the Number of standing Forces that are to remain there as the ordinary Establishment for the several Garrisons on the Island, is fixed to three Regiments of Foot and two of Horse. The rest are ordered some to the Milaneze, and some to this Kingdom where the Number of standing Troops is to be four Regiments of Foot and three of Horse.

Madrid, Sept. 9. On the 4th Instant the Marquess de Grimaldo, Secretary of State, wrote the following Letter to Colonel Stanhope, his Britanick Majesty's Minister here.

Sir,

BY the last Letters from Andalousia the King my Master is informed, that upon the assembling of Troops and the other Dispositions which are making in those Parts for his Royal Service, the British Subjects have entertained a Suspicion that they might be intended against Gibraltar: As this Surmise is so very contrary to the good Faith which his Majesty shews, and will ever religiously observe in maintaining that Correspondence in which he is desirous to continue with his Britannick Majesty and the British Nation, these Advices have very sensibly affected him; and his Majesty commands me both to express thus much to you, and to assure you that those Preparations are not, as indeed they ought not to be, intended either against Great Britain or any Place belonging to it, or against any of its Allies. Which Assurance, Sir, you may be pleased to give not only to the Governour of Gibraltar, but where-ever else you shall judge proper, and to whatever Persons are capable of apprehending any such Attempt from his Majesty's religious Disposition. I am, &c.

Escurial, Sept. 4, 1720. *Marq. de Grimaldo.*

On the 5th, Colonel Stanhope returned an Answer to the Marquess de Grimaldo's Letter, thanking him for the voluntary Declaration which by the King his Master's Command he had therein made of his Catholick Majesty's constant Resolution to maintain his Treaties inviolably; and acquainting him that he designed to dispatch an Officer of the Garrison of Gibraltar, who was then with him, to the commanding Officer of that Place, with a Copy of his the said Marquess's Letter.

Paris, Sept. 25, N. S. On the 22d Instant in the Evening a Summons was sent to all the Members of the Grand Council to assemble the next Day by Seven in the Morning, which they accordingly did, and an Hour after the Chancellour came thither, to whom the first President yielded his Place. Soon after the Duke Regent arrived likewise in Robes of Ceremony, attended by his Life-Guards and a Detachment of Swiss Troops. He was received at the Bottom of the Stairs by two Presidents and eight Counsellours of the Court, and took his Place at the Right Hand of the Chancellour. His Royal Highness was accompanied by the Duke de Chartres, the Duke de Bourbon, the Count de Charolois the Prince de Conti and the Count de Toulouse, 14 Dukes and Peers, and six Marshals of France, who having taken their Places, the Chancellour made a Speech, setting forth, that the Intention of this Assembly was to consider the Difficulties which had been formed against receiving the King's Declaration concerning the Pope's Constitution *Unigenitus*, which he thought had been drawn up with that Care and Circumspection as to admit of no reasonable Objection, being designed for no other End but to re-establish Peace in the Church. That the Duke Regent was come thither, not to put any Constraint upon the Council, but only to hear what Exceptions could be made to his Majesty's Declaration. After this the Attorney General presented to the Council new Letters commanding a Revision of that Affair, and a Registration of the King's Declaration. Those Counsellours who some Days before had come to a Resolution to intreat his Majesty to withdraw it, made their Remonstrances and Objections against it; notwithstanding which, after great Debates, which lasted till one a-Clock, it passed by a considerable Majority, and was registred accordingly; since which it has been made publick, as it is expected the Cardinal de Noailles's Pastoral Instruction and Mandate upon this Subject will shortly be. The Royal Regiment, which was the other Day reviewed by the King in the Plain des Sablons, is marched into Quarters, his Majesty having created 12 of the Officers Knights of St. Louis, and given